

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Highway Administration****Environmental Impact Statement:
South Kohala, HI**

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in South Kohala, Hawaii.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Abraham Wong, Hawaii Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Office Address: 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 3-306, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, Mailing Address: Box 50206, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850, Telephone: (808) 541-2700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA in cooperation with the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Highways Division, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a new highway from Waimea Town to Kawaihae Harbor. The project will provide improved highway, approximately 14 miles in length, which will facilitate the movement of goods and people between Central and West Hawaii. The new highway would also be supportive of anticipated heavier traffic demands and special needs, including the movement of military and commercial truck traffic.

In addition to several highway alignments, the project will analyze various other alternatives, including: (1) no action and (2) transportation system management strategies.

A letter describing the proposed action and soliciting comments has been sent to appropriate Federal, State and local agencies, and to private organizations and individuals, who have expressed an interest in this project. Several interagency and public scoping meetings will soon be scheduled. A public hearing will be held after publication of the project's draft EIS; public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. In addition, the draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the above address.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: November 12, 2002.

Abraham Wong,

Division Administrator, Hawaii.

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BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Motor Carrier Safety
Administration****Office of Research and Technology
Forum**

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting/forum.

SUMMARY: This notice invites interested persons to participate in a forum sponsored by the FMCSA Office of Research and Technology for the purpose of: Sharing information regarding the FMCSA new research approach; Learning how to establish partnerships with the agency's Office of Research and Technology on future projects; and Providing information on the accomplishments of the Research and Technology Office since last year's Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting.

Where: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in the Delaware Room, 2660 Woodley Road, NW., Washington, DC 20008.

When: Sunday, January 12, 2003, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Registration: To register for the forum and obtain more detailed information, you may visit the FMCSA R&T Forum Web site at: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rtforum>; or call (202) 493-0442.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Albert Alvarez, Office of Research and Technology (MC-RTR), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 400 Virginia Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024; telephone (202) 358-5684 or e-mail albert.alvarez@fhwa.dot.gov. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., E.S.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Forum attendees will receive a Continental Breakfast and a Information Packet. The forum is open to the public, but will be limited to the space available. If you are planning to attend this forum, you *must* register online at: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rtforum>, or call (202) 493-0442 by *December 20, 2002*.

Individuals needing special accommodations (sign, reader, etc.), please call Joanie Cole at (202) 334-2287, or e-mail jcole@nas.edu by *December 20, 2002*.

Note: If you are planning to attend the TRB Annual Meeting, you must register separately for it at: <http://www4.trb.org/trb/annual.nsf>.

Issued on: November 25, 2002.

Brian M. McLaughlin,

Associate Administrator for Policy and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 02-30312 Filed 11-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS****Capital Asset Realignment for
Enhanced Services (CARES)
Commission****Notice of Establishment**

As required by section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hereby gives notice of the establishment of the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has determined that establishing the Commission is both necessary and in the public interest.

The Commission will conduct a nationwide review to determine VA's capability to support the delivery of veterans health care services through the next 20 years and will make specific recommendations to the Secretary regarding the realignment and allocation of capital assets necessary to provide such services. In making its recommendations, the Commission with focus on the accessibility and cost effectiveness of care to be provided, while ensuring that the integrity of VA's health care and related missions is maintained, and any adverse impact on VA staff and affected communities is minimized.

The Commission will consider recommendations submitted by the VA Under Secretary for Health and will also consider other views and concerns submitted in writing during a 60-day period following the Under Secretary's recommendations. The Commission will also hold public hearings to receive and consider the views and recommendations of veterans service organizations, Congress, medical school affiliates, VA employees, local government entities, affected community groups and other interested parties.